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New-York March 20th. 1787.

A sketch of Col. Hamilton speech on the bill for recommending to Congress to admit into the Union the Assembled State of Vermont. After intimating that he had attempted to introduce this bill as a matter of course on Wednesday last, but in compliance with the opinion of the House had given previous notice of his intention he goes on. "This formality having been thought requisite, I presume it will be expected that I should on presenting the Bill accompany it with some reasons for doing so. Perhaps the Sentiments I entertain of the present situation of our national affairs may induce me to view the object of this bill in a more serious light than many Gentlemen equally solicitous for the public welfare. I confess I am in the habit of considering the state of this Country as replete with difficulties and surrounded with danger. The anxiety I feel on this head has been my inducement in to bring forward the present measure. I view with apprehension the present state of Vermont over which this state claims jurisdiction, and whose pretensions to independence has never yet been formally recognised either by this State or the United States. Notwithstanding I believe there is not a member of this House but considers the independence of the district of territory in question as a matter fixed and inevitable, all our efforts to a different point have hitherto proved fruitless, and it is long since we seem to have entirely given up the controversy. Vermont is in fact independent, but she is not confederated; and I am constrained to add that the means that they employ to secure that independence are objects of the utmost alarm to the safety of this State, and to the Confederation at large. Are they not wisely inviting and encouraging exiles by an exemption from taxes, and availing themselves of the discontents of a neighboring, by turning it to the aggrandisement of their own power. Is it not natural to supppose, that a powerful people both by numbers and situation, unconnected as they now stand, and without any relative dependance in the union; irritated by neglect or stimulated by revenge I say is it not probable under such circumstances they will provide for their own safety by seeking connection elsewhere. And who that hears me doubts but that these connections have already been formed by the British in Canada. We have the strongest evidence that negotiations have been carried on between that Government

and the leaders of the people in Vermont.
Whatever may be the present temper of that people it is easy to foresee what it will become under the influence of their leaders confederated with a foreign nation. we can be at no loss to anticipate the consequences of such a connection, nor the dangers to this country from having so powerful a body of people increasing rapidly in number and strength, associated with a foreign power. and ready upon any rupture to throw their weight into an opposite scale. In their present situation they have no part of the public interest if they were a part of the confederacy they must of course participate in them. They are useless to us now and if they continue as they are they will be formidable to us hereafter I have observed before that the people there enjoy an exemption from taxes & in these states the taxes must be inconsiderable to fulfill the public engagements: to support government. What a temptation will a comparison of situations in this respect furnish to the inhabitants of these States bordering on Vermont. It is the policy of Vermonters to make proselytes to their government and the means which they employ for that purpose are too well calculated to accomplish their designs. Are they not daily encroaching on our State. In every light it is our interest if possible to put an end to their present situation. I am aware there is in the minds of some members an objection founded on a supposition that if we accede to the independence of Vermont we are bound to make compensation to the citizens who have claims there under the grants of this State. I shall not say what justice may dictate in respect to those citizens: but I shall observe that as far as that obligation is binding upon us it applies more strongly to the actual state of things, than to that which is intended to be produced by the bill. It is the duty of the State as matters now stand either to support the claims of its citizens by an exertion of the public powers, or to make compensation to, more who are sufferers by the neglect. Passively acquiescing in the independence of Vermont is not less a violation of that protection and security which the public owes to individuals, than formally acceding to it and putting our citizens in a better situation than that in which they now are. We at least give them a chance for asserting their rights. The bill makes it a condition of the intended acknowledgement of the independence of Vermont, that it should become a part of the confederacy. The claims of individuals may then be submitted to the decision of a federal court, and as far as our citizens have equitable claims it may be expected they would prevail in such a court. At any rate we shall not be under strong

regulation in this respect than we now are, and we may avoid many and extensive mischiefs by acceeding to the measures proposed by the Bill. ... many more considerations might be urged, but I think it unnecessary to enter into them at present.

If any Gentlemen has arguments to oppose to those I have used I shall be glad to hear them, and flatter myself that I shall be able to obviate any difficulties that may arise.

From the Massachusetts Gazette.

Friday March 30th. 1787.

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Burlington 8th of November 1787

Sir

I have taken assigned a new Farm of five hundred acres in one body; in which are three hundred & fifty acres of choice River Intervale, a quantity of Swales and rich upland meadow interspersed with the good Wheat land and Pasture land well watered, and is by nature equal to any tract of land of the same numbers of acres that I ever saw. I have about 70 acres under improvement. The country settles fast, and I wish that you was well settled in it. Little is said about Philosophy here are "talk is of Bullocks and our glory is in the Soil," we mind earthly things. As to business I never was dissatisfied with your management of my affairs at Westminster but for some reason or other or without any reason, Mrs Wall was very urgent to have Mr Norton to settle Brushes estate and I hated to have him and Mrs Wall unease with me about the matter and as you were from home I acted as I did in the nomination of Mr Norton & Esquire Townsend as executors, immediately it was in some respects impolitic in me yet yet it will give satisfaction to Mr Wall and his Wife though they have not nor are they at all likely to settle the Estates and consequently the Settlement of it will return to its former channel and with respect to any conjectures respecting to your making to yourself any Interest in doing the business it matters not. Wall has blown out on his own scheme & I must confess that was it not for your advice I never should have done any thing about the Estate. Finally it a business which demands talents to manage it and if there can be any thing made in finishing the Job. I am willing and expect that you will share liberally with me in it you will see the Letter I wrote to Norton and Townsend & then seal it and cause it to be delivered to Norton and counsel with Mr Harrington and West my Attorneys with you and do any thing and every thing in the premises that may be adjudged best for my interest. I am Sir with due respect your friend and Humble

Servant - Ethan Allen

E. H. Bradley